

Opposition Testimony on HB 189
Submitted by: Sheri Cody

To the Chairman, Ranking Member, and Members of the Committee, thank you for allowing me to present this testimony in opposition to HB 189.

As a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthesiologist in Stark County, I am urging you to vote no on HB 189. This bill will make citizens even less safe in Ohio by encouraging Ohioans to buy guns. A prize for the gun industry but NOT for Ohioans!

As a CRNA I have seen the devastation of gunshot wounds. According to a study of 23,000 John's Hopkins Trauma Patients, gun injuries require 10 X the units of blood to treat compared to other types of trauma, and patients who have been shot are 14 times more likely to die than other trauma patients.

Research shows that states with more gun ownership and looser gun laws have more mass shootings.(1) Our state is having an epidemic of gun violence. According to the CDC, 1,702 Ohioans die by guns every year. Ohio's gun death rate has been growing rapidly and we now have the 23rd-highest gun death rate in the US. (2).

I urge you to vote no on HB 189.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheri Cody, RN, BSN, CRNA

Sources:

1. BMJ. 2019 Mar 6
State gun laws, gun ownership, and mass shootings in the US: cross sectional time series. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/home/analyze/>
2. <https://worldpopulationreview.com/state-rankings/gun-violence-by-state>. 2023

